

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 097679
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:EHURWITZ:FLW
APPROVED BY EA - MR. HOLBROOKE
S/S - AOTTO

-----301834Z 081951 /53

R 300007Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097679

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KN, US

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PYONGYANG INTERMEDIARY

REF: STATE 73816

1. ON APRIL 27 SAMUEL NOUMOFF, THE AMERICAN PROFESSOR WHO EARLIER HAD DELIVERED TO US THE LETTER FROM THE NORTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER, CALLED AT HIS REQUEST ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE. NOUMOFF GAVE HOLBROOKE AN ACCOUNT OF DISCUSSIONS HE HAD IN FEBRUARY WITH THE NORTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER HO TAM AND WITH A DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WHICH FOLLOWED THE POINTS O'TLINED REFTEL. ESSENTIALLY, THE NORTH KOREANS PRESSED FOR BILATERAL TALKS WITH US AND REITERATED THEIR UNWILLINGNESS TO RESUME THE DIALOGUE WITH THE PRESENT SOUTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT. NOUMOFF SAID ADDITIONALLY THAT HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE NORTH WOULD AGREE TO TRILATERAL U.S.-NORTH-SOUTH TALKS ON "DISARMAMENT" ISSUES, BUT THERE IS NO SUGGESTION OF THIS
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IN THE WRITTEN ACCOUNT OF HIS PYONGYANG MEETING WHICH HE LEFT WITH US. HOLBROOKE REPEATED AND EXPLAINED OUR STANDING POLICY ON CONTACTS WITH THE ;ORTH.

2. NOUMOFF SAID HE WOULD BE GOING TO TOKYO SHORTLY AND IMPLIED HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH PRO-PYONGYANG KOREANS

RESIDENT THERE. HE MAY ALSO GO ON TO NORTH KOREA.

3. MR. NOUMOFF WAS AT A LOSS TO EXPLAIN WHY THE NORTH KOREANS HAD CHOSEN HIM AS AN EMISSARY, ALTHOUGH HE NOTED THAT PYONGYANG WAS AWARE THAT HE WAS "FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARD DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DPRK".

4. WE DO NOT INTEND TO INFORM ROKG ABOUT MEETING.

5. FULL TEXT OF NOUMOFF'S WRITTEN ACCOUNT BEING POUCHED.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, VISITS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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